COASTAL FLOOD WATCH/WARNING/ADVISORY TABLES

The following information is provided to help interpret the tidal forecast tables that appear in our Coastal Flood Watch, Warning and Advisory products.

Here is an example of a tidal forecast table.

Delaware Bay at Lewes
MLLW Categories – Minor 6.0 ft, Moderate 7.0 ft, Major 8.0 ft
MHHW Categories – Minor 1.3 ft, Moderate 2.3 ft, Major 3.3 ft

Day/Time	Total Tide ft MLLW	Total Tide ft MHHW	Departure from Norm ft	Flood Impact
30/12 AM	7.6	3.0	2.3	Moderate
30/01 PM	5.6	1.0	1.7	None
31/01 AM	6.0	1.3	1.0	Minor
31/02 PM	4.2	-0.5	0.4	None
01/02 AM	5.0	0.3	0.3	None
01/03 PM	3.9	-0.8	0.2	None

"MLLW Categories" indicates the thresholds at which minor, moderate and major flooding begin relative to Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) is the average level of the lowest tide for each day computed over a 19-year period.

"MHHW Categories" indicates the thresholds at which minor, moderate and major flooding begin relative to Mean Higher High Water (MHHW).

Mean Higher High Water (MHHW) is the average level of the highest tide for each day computed over a 19-year period.

The water level in MLLW is always a larger value than the water level in MHHW since the water depth is being measured from the average level of the low tide as opposed to being measured from the average level of the high tide.

The first column in the table (Day/Time) indicates the times of the next 6 high tides rounded to the nearest hour.

The second column (Total Tide ft MLLW) provides the forecast water level at high tide relative to Mean Lower Low Water.

The third column (Total Tide ft MHHW) provides the forecast water level at high tide relative to Mean Higher High Water.

The fourth column (Departure from Norm ft) indicates how much higher/lower the forecast water level is above/below what it should be, based on the normal tide cycle.

The fifth column (Flood Impact) shows the expected category of flooding (None, Minor, Moderate or Major).